Synopsis for Ph.D.

"PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS IN ORGANIC FARMING IN MARATHWADA REGION OF MAHARASTRA STATE."

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INTRODUCTION

India is one of the agriculture-based nations with more than 50%of the population in the agriculture sector. The history of agriculture in India date back to the industrial valley civilization. India ranks second worldwide in farm outputs. As par 2018, agriculture employed more than 50% of the Indian workforce and contributed 17-18 to the country's GDP.

Organic farming is an agriculture system that uses fertilizers of organic origin such as compost. Manure, green manure, and bone meal and places emphasis on techniques such as crop rotation and companion planting. It originated early in the 20th century in reaction to rapidly changing practices certified organic agriculture accounts for 70 million hectares globally, with over half to that total in Australia. Organic farming continues to be developed by various organizations today.

Introduction on how to start organic farming in Maharashtra: Maharashtra is one of the leading states in India economically and agriculturally, with significant production of important food and such crops including sugarcane and flowers it is a system that avoids largely eliminates the use of artificially compound fertilizer, pesticides, growth regulators, genetically modified organisms and animal feed additives. Maximum organic farming system to maintain crop rotations, crop residues, animal manures,legumes, green manures,organic waste from farms, bio-fertilizers mechanical cultivation, mineral impact rocks, and soil production depends on the aspect of biological control to supply plants, weeds, and other pests.

The growth story of organic farming is unfolding with increasing demand not only in India but also globally. In a world battered by the COVID Pandemic, the demand for healthy and safe food is already showing an upward trend and hence this is opportune to be captured for farmers, consumers, and the environment.

India ranks first in the number of organic farmers and ninth in terms of area under organic farming. Sikkim became the first state in the world to become fully organic and other states including Tripura and Uttarakhand have set similar targets. Northeast India has traditionally been organic and the consumption of chemicals is far less than the rest of the country.

Distress among farmers in Maharashtra resulted in 2498 of them taking their lives in the 11 months from January to November 2021,according to RTI as a report in the Times of India.

In 2020, 2574 farmers in debt had killed themselves. According to data from the state revenue department, despite the lone waiver scheme of the government, farmers are still taking their lives as they can't pay loans.

Aurangabad saw 804 suicide while Nagpur reported 309 cases. Konkon saw to suicides in the last couple of years. Even after several loan waivers and multiple other schemes for the former, the suicide rate has seen no major reduction as 2547 farmers committed suicide in

2020 while 2498 ended their lives in 11 months from January to November 2021,said JeetendraGhadge,RTI activist who wanted the data.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Agriculture is considered the backbone of India's economy.It plays a strategic role in the process of economic development. Growth in the agricultural sector maybe will be judged by the increase in agricultural production over time. India is expected to achieve the ambitious goal of doubling income by2022.

It is well said that agriculture is the art of growing crops. As we know that plants required water, sunlight, oxygen, and growth and development but there are some factors that we provide to plants are harmful to their health,hence there is a need to avoid those factors. So there is a need to find an alternative for these synthetic fertilizers. The only solution for this problem is the use of organic fertilizer, which is called organic farming.

Organic farming works in the harmony with nature rather than against it. This involves using techniques to achieve good crop yields without harming the natural environment or the people who live and work in it.

Organic agriculture combines traditional innovation and science to benefit the environment and promote fair relationships and good quality of life for all world. Rather than using chemical materials it uses biological materials and maintains ecological balance thereby minimizing pollution and wastage.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

It is a known fact of farming is not attractive to get a minimum standard of living due to loss or less profit. Farming has become the last choice amongst agriculturalists almost all young generations of farming communities are switching over to other sector and only those who have no other option are remaining in agriculture during 1950 and at present, less than 50 percent only are engaged in agriculture. One of the main reasons is cultivated land remains same but population increased by 2-3 time during the above period.

Today the world is facing a lot of health-related issues because of eating non-organic food. To meet the increasing demand by massive population the food nowadays is being prepared by using different pesticides and chemical sprays etc.

Pesticides affect human health by causing a large number of diseases ranging from mild to severe. They even cause toxicity if used on a long-term basis. The main cause of the human disease is eating unhygienic food. There is a rapid increase in diseases like obesity, heart attack, diabetes cancer,etc.all because of eating unhealthy food.

I am strongly concerned with the health issues caused by eating unhealthy food so to solve this issue. I am a great supporter of organic farming.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study is mainly confined to analyzing the issue of organic farming like management of seed, manure, irrigation, disease, harvesting, productivity, marketing, profitability, and growth or organic farming in the Marathwada region, Maharashtra state. The primary data were collected from the organic farmers engaged in organic farming in the study of the area.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To know the profile of organic farmers engaged in organic farming in the Marathwada region, Maharashtra state.
- To analyze major issues and challenges faced in organic farming in the Marathwada region.
- To understand the factors affecting profitability in organic farming in the Marathwada region.
- To measure the level of satisfaction of farmers towards organic farming in the Marathwada region, Maharashtra state.
- To highlight the opportunities available for organic farming in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra state.

HYPOTHESES

- There is no significant relationship between the size of the farmers and the option of selecting organic farming.

- There is no significant relationship between the source irrigation and capital employed.

- There is no significant relationship between the implementation of crop insurance and the educational level of the respondents.

- There is no significant relationship between the opinions of the farmers regarding profitability and the price of organic farming products.
- The family state of the respondents influences the issue in the marketing of organic products in the Marathwada region.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Descriptive research is considered the most appropriate for the present study. Hence the study has been descriptive type. The research problem hypothesis and interview schedule all have been formulated and framed accordingly. The suggestion of the study emerged from the inferences drawn from the sample survey of organic farming in the Marathwada region, Maharashtra state.

DATA COLLECTION

I) Primary Data

First-hand data were collected from the field through interview schedule and observation data relating to the issue and challenges of organic farming were gathered through interviews from farmers engaged in organic farming in Marathwada region Maharashtra state. There are thousands of organic farmers throughout the Marathwada region, and also they are spread over the entire state hence, it will be decided to collect data from the farmers who have registered for organic certification with the Marathwada region, organic certification department Maharashtra.

II) Secondary Data

The Secondary data were collected from leading agricultural journals, articles, and press news from leading local regional language journals. Magazines and newspapers about organic farming practice further the data were collected from Marathwada region, Maharashtra state agricultural university library and agro exhibitions conducted by a government department.

Chapter scheme:

Chapter 1 Introduction

Chapter 2 Review of literature

Chapter 3 Research Methodology

Chapter 4 Profile of area study

Chapter 5 Data analysis

Chapter 6 Findings and recommendations

Bibliography

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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Research student **Research Guide**

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